

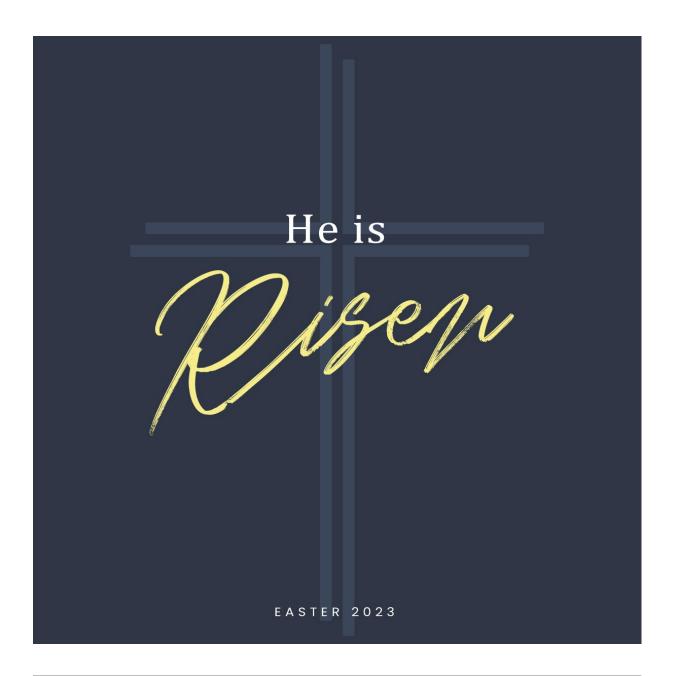
Monday, April 10th, 2023

Dear {{prefix}} {{lastname}},

Thank you for subscribing to my weekly newsletter. Here you will be able to learn more about my work in Washington and at home serving Long Islanders.

EASTER

I hope all who observed had a very blessed and pleasant Easter! This time of year often symbolizes rebirth, renewal, and hope. It is a time for Christians to reflect, repent and show gratitude for the sacrifice made by Jesus. I hope everyone took time to cherish everything we have been gifted in life and spent time with your loved ones.



PASSOVER

For the last few days, many in our community have been observing Passover. Passover represents the Israelites' liberation from slavery in Egypt and their journey towards freedom. The holiday symbolizes the Jewish people's resilience and faith in God, as well as their commitment to remembering their history and passing it down to future generations. Like Easter, Passover is also a time for reflection, repentance, and renewal. I pray for a peaceful Passover and a blessed Seder to all of my Jewish constituents. Chag Sameach!



BACKING THE BLUE

One of my top priorities in Congress is ensuring that our Law Enforcement Officers and First Responders have the support and resources they need to keep all of us safe. I was proud to cosponsor several pieces of legislation to provide support for and protect Law Enforcement Officers and other First Responders around the country.

Each of these bills takes an important step to supporting our heroes who put their lives on the line every day.

H.Res. 69 would recognize the dedication and devotion of Law Enforcement personnel and states that calls to "defund," "disband," "dismantle," or "abolish" the police should be condemned.

H.R. 130, the Thin Blue Line Act, would toughen penalties against anyone who murders police officers and other first responders. The bill, which passed the U.S. House in the 115th Congress, would make the murder or attempted murder of a first responder an "aggravating" factor in death penalty determinations.

H.R. 355, the Back the Blue Act, would increase the penalties for criminals who intentionally target law enforcement officers and provide new tools for officers to protect themselves.

H.R. 743, the Protect and Serve Act, would establish a new criminal offense for knowingly assaulting a law enforcement officer and causing serious bodily injury in circumstances that affect interstate commerce.

H.R. 795, the Protecting First Responders from Secondary Exposure Act, would establish the first federal program to provide local governments with resources to purchase containment devices and aims to help state and local governments purchase containment devices, which are used to safely store narcotics and preserve them for evidentiary use, and provide subsequent training to reduce first responders' risk of secondary exposure to lethal substances.

Suffolk County is home to an active community of current and retired First Responders and, as the son and grandson of Police Officers, I am proud to represent them in Congress.

FUNDING FOR STONY BROOK

I am proud to announce federal funding for research grants at Stony Brook University. Through these grants, Stony Brook will receive \$1,402,843 in federal funding.

I am thrilled to see federal dollars come home to Suffolk County. Long Islanders are very familiar with the incredible work that is done at Stony Brook University and it is great to see this acknowledged by the federal government.

The research being conducted at Stony Brook is groundbreaking and should lead to even more federal funding. I applaud the work being done by faculty and students at Stony Brook and look forward to seeing the results of their research.

For every dollar in federal taxes my constituents pay, we get a mere ninety-three cents back. That is unacceptable and a reason why I will always fight to make sure that Suffolk County receives our fair share of federal funding.

Stony Brook's grants are as follows:

- Uniformization and Rigidity in Metric Surfaces and in the Complex Plane, \$239,774, National Science Foundation
- Holomorphic Dynamics and Related Themes, \$369,435, National Science Foundation
- Uniformization of Surfaces and Mapping Problems in Metric Spaces, \$148,072, National Science Foundation
- Greenhouse Gas Emission Rates for Urban Environments Along the U.S. Northeast Coast, \$255,304, National Science Foundation
- University's research in the fields of pharmacology, physiology, and biological chemistry, \$390,258, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

AROUND SUFFOLK COUNTY

Long Island Cares is an organization dedicated to serving Long Island's hungry and food insecure populations. The organization is working to improve food security and sponsor programs which help families achieve self-sufficiency. I appreciate the organization's staff for their work and for taking the time to meet with me this week.



Thanks to the Civil Air Patrol (CAP) for showing me around... at 3,000 feet above Suffolk County! The CAP plays an important role in supporting communities and serving the nation. As the civilian auxiliary of the United States Air Force, CAP provides emergency services, aerospace education, and cadet programs. CAP members also assist with search and rescue operations, disaster relief efforts, and homeland security missions. I am thankful for the work CAP does to keep Long Islanders safe and support fellow First Responders!



I was honored to stand with the incredible advocates at the Crime Victims Center to help launch Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM). SAAM is observed annually in April to raise public awareness about the prevalence of sexual violence and the importance of prevention. SAAM aims to promote healthy sexuality, challenge harmful attitudes and beliefs, and support survivors of sexual assault. Through education, advocacy, and community engagement, SAAM works to end sexual violence and create safer, more respectful communities for all. I will continue to work with anyone to end the horrific crimes related to sexual assault and abuse.



Habitat for Humanity is a global nonprofit organization that helps families in need of decent and affordable housing. I appreciated them taking the time to talk with me about their work. Through volunteer labor and donations of money and materials, Habitat builds and rehabilitates homes, providing a hand up, not a handout, to families and communities. With a vision of a world where everyone has a decent place to live, Habitat works to create lasting, sustainable change and break the cycle of poverty. They do incredible work to support Long Islanders and I can't wait to work with them more!



Long Island is serviced by several public and private airports including JFK and LaGuardia in Queens, Brookhaven, East Hampton, Gabreski in Westhampton Beach, MacArthur in Ronkonkoma, and Republic in Farmingdale, providing hundreds of good-paying jobs and transit options for Long Islanders. TRACONs are Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) facilities which house air traffic controllers who guide aircraft approaching and departing airports. It was great to meet with local air traffic controllers and learn more about their work to support our community.



Ensuring Long Islanders have access to quality and nutritious food should be a top priority for our communities. I had the chance to visit Island Harvest Food Bank to see their facility and meet their incredible team. Island Harvest is a leading hunger-relief organization with a mission to end hunger and reduce food waste on Long Island. I was blown away by the amazing work being done by the staff here and look forward to working with them in the future.



ART COMPETITION

Recently, I was proud to <u>announce the launch of the 2023 Congressional Art Contest</u>. Every day I walk to the Capitol I am fortunate to see art from high schoolers from around the country and their work is truly incredible.



This annual competition is conducted by the U.S. House of Representatives to showcase the talent of high school students from across the United States. This year's winner will have their work displayed in the halls of the U.S. Capitol for one calendar year and receive two round-trip tickets to Washington, D.C. to attend a Congressional reception honoring winners from each Congressional district.

Any student, parent, or art teacher with questions about the contest should contact my office. I am excited to see the artistic talent of the First District!

Sincerely,

Rep. Nick LaLota Member of Congress

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Contact Me

Washington, DC Office

Huntington District Office

1530 Longworth House Office Building Washington, DC 20515 Phone: (202) 225-3826 478 A Park Avenue Huntington, NY 11743 Phone: (631) 289-1097"